

NOME: _____ N.º / TURMA: _____

English FORMATIVE TEST - 10th Form - Block 1 2013/2014

The final task you are expected to complete is **to write a paragraph commenting on a statement**.
Activities A and B will provide you with input for Activity C.

ACTIVITY A

1. Match the words/expressions that relate to learning languages in A to their definitions in B - Three of the definitions do not apply. Write the numbers in full, for example: 1 (one).

A

- a- mother tongue _____
- b- official language _____
- c- phonetics _____
- d- lingua franca _____
- e- Esperanto _____
- f- endangered language _____
- g- hybrid language _____

B

- 1- a language that is given a special status in a particular country, state or jurisdiction
- 2- the scientific study of language
- 3- a language that is no longer in current use
- 4- the most widely spoken constructed auxiliary language
- 5- a language that is the product of mixing two or more languages
- 6- a shared language of communication used between people whose main languages are different
- 7- the study of speech sounds and how they are produced
- 8- the language that a person has learned from birth
- 9- a language not spoken in the native country
- 10- a language that is at risk of falling out of use

2. Complete the following text with ten words/expressions from the box. Use each word/expression only once. Three words do not apply.

although	employers	being proficient	single	such	better	succeed
workers	throughout	full advantage	abroad	towards	share	

Why Learn Languages?

Language learning is something that everyone can do and do it _____¹ their lifetime - you're never too old or too young to learn a language! In many countries it is quite normal for most people to be able to use three languages. In the European Union, _____² people are well placed to take _____³ of European citizenship and of the _____⁴ market. They are _____⁵ able to move between countries for educational, professional or other reasons. Their linguistic skills are attractive to _____⁶. The European Commission wants everybody in the Union to _____⁷ these benefits. In its 1995 White Paper "Teaching and Learning: _____⁸ the learning society", it set the objective of all EU citizens _____⁹ in three European languages: their mother tongue plus two more. This is an important question: why do you want to learn? And what do you want to learn? If you have a clear reason for learning a language, you will be more motivated to _____¹⁰.

ACTIVITY B

Read the following text.

English to welcome one-millionth word

www.chinaview.cn

BEIJING, Feb. 7 - Champions of the English language are about to mark a momentous point in its 1,500-year history: the creation of its millionth word, the Queensland-based Sunday Mail reported. The growing use of Chinglish (Chinese-English) and dozens of other ethnic hybrids has pushed the number of words in the language to 986,120, says Paul Payack, a Harvard-educated linguist monitoring its growth. (§1)

The Chinese government has vowed to sweep Chinglish from road to shop signs before the 2008 Beijing Olympics, but is fighting an uphill battle. Payack, who works for Global Language Monitor, a San Diego-based consultancy, said 20,000 new English words were registered on the company's databases last year - twice as many as a few years ago. About 20 percent were in Chinglish. (§2)

According to Payack, the millionth word is likely to be formed by mid-year, confirming the domination of English in the global linguistic order. French, which was the language of diplomacy in the 19th century but went into decline in the 20th, is said to contain just 100, 000 words. "Global English is no longer just dominated by either British English or American, but is running free and developing uniquely regional forms," said Payack. Chinglish and up to 60 cousins such as Spanglish (Spanish-English), Japlish (Japanese English), and Hinglish (Hindi-English) owe their rise largely to the Internet. Thanks to its influence, a language that evolved in Anglo-Saxon England now reaches billions of homes in the developing world, where it is transformed for local taste while remaining recognizably English. (§3)

Payack's databases are compiled by computers searching sources such as newspapers, television programs and Internet blogs. He claims to have identified a "tipping point" in 1994, when the trickle of new English words became a flood. Mosaic, the first user-friendly Web browser, was invented about the same time. (§4)

English has triumphed because it is open to change, Payack said. David Crystal, the author of the Cambridge Encyclopaedia of the English Language, said the statistics spoke for themselves. "In the 1960s, 250 million people spoke English, but now it's closer to two billion, or one in three people in the world," Professor Crystal said. "But there is debate about where it goes from here. Does it splinter into a loosely connected family of English languages, which become mutually incomprehensible again, like old Latin, or do we develop a standard global English that can be understood by all. We don't know what will happen." (§5)

1. Match the paragraphs to the corresponding ideas. Do not use the same number twice and write the numbers in full, for example: 1 (one).

- a. **PARAGRAPH**_____ - The Internet is the main source of new words which are a mixture of English and other languages.
- b. **PARAGRAPH**_____ - English has turned into a global language as it is permeable to change.
- c. **PARAGRAPH**_____ - English is about to acquire the highest number of words existing in a single language.
- d. **PARAGRAPH**_____ - All the data compiled by Payack reached a high point in 1994 when the English language started being inundated by many new words.
- f. **PARAGRAPH**_____ - The administration has been fighting in vain against the invasion of English into the Chinese territory.

2. Find evidence in the text for the following statements.

a) The rising use of hybrid languages has expanded the English vocabulary.

b) Global English is evolving in an uncontrolled way and developing distinctive varieties of English.

c) Many hybrid languages have been cropping up mostly due to the World Wide Web.

3 Complete the sentences according to the text. Use your own words as far as possible!

a. French used to _____

b. Statistics prove that _____

c. David Chrystal wonders whether _____

4. Reread paragraph 3 and find appropriate words/phrases to fill in this table.

	SYNONYM	ANTONYM
supremacy	1)	
comprise	2)	
decline (noun)		3)
on account of	4)	

5. Fill in the gaps with the following connectors. Three connectors do not apply.

however	moreover	but also	although
due to	indeed	because	or

An honorary professor and part-time lecturer of linguistics, David Crystal has published over 100 books, which manage to be both scholarly and eminently readable. _____¹, Crystal's greatest achievement is *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language*. In his preface to *The Cambridge Encyclopedia*, Crystal examines the question, "Why study the English language?" Here are two of the reasons he gives to studying English. First, he says that English is fascinating. _____², it is remarkable how often the language turns up as a topic of interest in daily conversation - whether it is a question about accents and dialects, a comment about usage and standards, _____³ simply curiosity about a word's origins and history. _____⁴, we should study English _____⁵ its importance. The dominant role of English as a world language forces it upon our attention in a way that no language has ever done before.

6. Fill in the gaps with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

Sally¹ (be) a teacher of English in China and² (now/tell) her friends about an embarrassing experience she once had at school: “..... you ever³ (feel) really ashamed in front of a class of children? One morning in Beijing my alarm clock⁴ (not ring) because I⁵ (forget) to wind it up. When I arrived at school the students⁶ (already/go) into class. Then, while I⁷ (write) the summary on the board, all the students began laughing and speaking Chinese loudly and I⁸ (can not) understand why. Suddenly I looked down and immediately understood. I had put on one black shoe and one brown shoe! I quickly realised that I wouldn’t forget that day in my entire life!”

ACTIVITY C

1. List five reasons to take a summer course in an English-speaking country.
- a. _____
- b. _____
- c. _____
- d. _____
- e. _____

2. Write a paragraph where you comment on the following quotation by Charles V. Write 100 to 120 words.

“A man who knows four languages is worth four men.”

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are approximately 20 lines visible. The paper has a slight shadow on its right side, suggesting it's resting on a surface.